(SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The provisioning of microwave link does not depend on the successful launching of INSAT-1D. Microwave link and INSAT-1D link are independent of each other.

(b) Gujarat has already been connected both on microwave and satellite.

(c) Question does not arise in view of the reply given in part (b).

Setting up of separate Ministry for NRIs

@1627. SHRI M. M. JACOB:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI RAM DAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Seminar recently organised by the non-resident Indians in the Capital, a suggestion was mooted for the setting up of a separate Ministry for NRIs; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto in the context of their new industrial policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For the time being Government has decided to set up a separate Division on Overseas Indians in the Ministry of External Affairs which will look after, *inter alia* the interests of the NRIs.

Enquiry into murder of a candidate in the Meham Election

@@1628. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI has completed enquiry into the murder of a candidate in the Meham elections in May, 1990,

(b) if so, what was the outcome thereof; and

(c) if not, by when the inquiry is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) The State Government of Haryana have been requested to accord their specific consent under Section 6 of the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act empowering CBI to investigate the Meham incidents. The State Government have so far not given the required consent. However, the Union Government have appointed a Commission of Inquiry to look into the Meham incidents, headed by Shri Justice D. P. Madon, retired Judge of the Supreme Court. The Commission has sought the services of CBI to assist the Commission under Section 5A of the Commission of Inquiry Act and necessary concurrence of the Government of India has been accorded to the Commission in the matter.

Bridge at I.T.O., New Delhi

@@@1629. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, about three years back, a notice board was put up on the Yamuna Bridge at ITO in Delhi stating that a parallel four lane bridge would be built alongside it to ease the traffic congestion;

@Previously Unstarred Question 388, transferred from 9th August, 1990.

@@Previously Unstarred Question 393, transferred from 9th August, 1990.

@@@Previously Unstarred Question 504, transferred from 10th August, 1990.

(b) whether it is also a fact that during peak hours it takes half-an-hour to cross the road bridge connecting ITO and the Trans-Yamuna colonies; and

(c) if so, by when the work on the parallel bridge is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Delhi Administration who are responsible for the proposed bridge, are planning to provide a four lane parallel bridge near the existing ITO Bridge.

(b) According to Delhi Administration, it takes about 15 to 20 minutes to cross the bridge during peak hours.

(c) The feasibility of the bridge has been accepted in principle by Ministry. It, has, however yet to be approved by Delhi Development Authority and it is also to be cleared by Delhi Urban Arts Commission. It is, therefore, too early to indicate the dates of start and completion of the proposed bridge.

Looting of Passenger Train between Khurja and Sikandarpur

@@@@@1630. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a shuttle passenger train of Northern Railway had been looted between Khurja and Sikandarpur stations on the night of 18th June, 1990;

(b) if so, the number of bogies looted;

(c) whether some passengers were killed; and

(d) the amount and property looted from the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) The Government of Uttar Pradesh have informed that on 13.6.90 a dacoity took place in a shuttle passenger train between Khurja and Sikandarpur Railway Station. Only one bogie was looted.

(c) None was killed.

(d) About Rs. 4,655/- in cash, wathces, clothes and bags etc. belonging to 8 passenger was looted.

Completion of construction of T.V. Studio at Bhubaneswar

1631. SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for completion of construction of T.V. Studio at Bhubaneswar; and

(b) what is the progress made and the amount spent so far?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) The construction of the building for the TV Studio Centre at Bhubaneshwar has already been completed. Orders for major equipment have been placed and part equipment including one OB Van has been received. Whereas the project is envisaged to be fully commissioned into service during 1991-92, it has been planned to operationalise the Studio Centre with limited facilities during the current financial year (1990-91) itself.

An expenditure of Rs. 1260.14 lakh has been incurred on the project till June, 1990.

@@@@@Previously Unstarred Question 579, transferred from 10th August, 1990.